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## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

The fifty-odd members and friends of the society who braved the elements on the night of December 8 to attend the open meeting of the executive council were rewarded with hearing a very interesting talk by Colonel George E. Leach on "The 151st United States Field Artillery in the World War." The annual meeting of the society was held on January 12 and included an open session in the auditorium, which was filled to overflowing with an audience of about 225 people. The annual address, by Dr. Carl Russell Fish, professor of American history at the University of Wisconsin, was a brilliant analysis of "American Democracy." The museum was open to the public both before and after the meeting, and most of those in attendance took advantage of the opportunity to inspect the exhibits.

The following new members, all active, have been enrolled, during the quarter ending January 31, 1920: Arthur T. Adams, Willoughby M. Babcock Jr., David P. Jones, and Frederick W. Sardeson of Minneapolis; Grover H. Wilsey of St. Paul; Edward C. Congdon of Duluth; John H. Hill of Ironton; Martin C. F. Schumann of Litchfield; Helen Benn Morse of East Grand Forks; J. E. Haycraft of Fairmont; and Royal H. Holbrook of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Deaths during the same period include those of one honorary member, Charles H. Hitchcock of Honolulu, November 5; and of three active members, George Bertram Ware of St. Paul, December 23; the Reverend John Wright of St. Paul, December 24; and Dr. Caryl B. Storrs of Minneapolis, January 18. The death of Samuel A. Green of Boston, an honorary member, which occurred December 5, 1918, has not heretofore been noted in the BULLETIN.

The total number of members on the rolls of the society January 1, 1920, was 514, of whom 16 are honorary, 68 corresponding, and 430 active members. The active members are further classified as 293 life, 41 sustaining, and 96 annual. Thirty-seven new members were enrolled during the year, all active. Sixteen mem-

bers were dropped for non-payment of dues, and fourteen died during the year, making a total loss of thirty. Of these twenty-six belonged to the class of active members, two were corresponding, and two were honorary members. It will be seen, therefore, that there has been a net increase of eleven in the active membership and seven in the total membership. The society needs more active members, not for the dues, which on the average do not equal the cost of the publications supplied to the members, but to enable it to keep in touch with a larger number of people and to bring about a more general appreciation of its services to the state and of the greater services which it might render under more favorable circumstances.

The additions to the library in 1919 number 2,474 books and 891 pamphlets, a total of 3,365. This total compares favorably with the acquisitions of recent years, but an analysis of the figures shows that only twenty-nine per cent of these items were acquired by purchase as compared with forty per cent of the accessions so acquired in 1918; the percentages of gifts rose from twenty to thirty-three and of exchanges from fourteen to nineteen. The decline in the number of purchased books and pamphlets reflects, of course, the increased prices, but it reflects also an actual decrease in the amount of money available for purchasing books. The increase in gifts and exchanges is a result of the activity of the librarian in soliciting material, as is also the increase in the number of serials, including magazines but not newspapers, currently received. This rose from 1,461 to 2,040 during the year and practically all the new items come as gifts or exchanges.

The year 1919 was marked by an increase over 1918 of about thirty-five per cent in the number of readers in the main library, and an increase of over seventy per cent in the number of books supplied to readers at the desk. Should the increase continue at this rate it will soon be necessary to employ an additional desk assistant if satisfactory service is to be maintained.

The society has recently prepared two lists of its duplicate books and pamphlets, one of which is offered on priced and the other on unpriced exchange account. These lists will be sent to

any institution having duplicate material on historical or allied subjects that can be sent in exchange for these duplicates.

A special exhibit of some of the oldest and most interesting of the single manuscripts belonging to the society was on display in the manuscript room for the first time in connection with the annual meeting of the society. Among the documents included was a commission issued by Governor William Clark of Missouri in 1816 to "Tar-mah-hah," a Sioux of the Red Wing band, who, when most of his tribe supported the British in the War of 1812, made his way to St. Louis and entered the American service as a scout. In recognition of his services and his loyalty the governor gave him this commission commending him as a chief to the Indians and to the officers and men of the army of the United States. Soiled and worn, mended and mounted and remounted on every kind of paper, even wall paper, the old commission was carried by Tamahaw and exhibited by him with unbounded pride on every possible occasion until the time of his death about 1865. It then passed into the hands of other Indians but finally, in 1884, was secured by Francis Talbot of Wabasha, who sent it to the Minnesota Historical Society. Another item in the exhibit of equal if not greater popular interest was an old account book kept by a fur-trader from 1836 to 1840 in which the articles sold are indicated by various symbols such, for example, as a rectangle for a blanket. Occasionally the trader went so far as to represent his debtors by crude drawings such as the figure of a bird for Gray Eagle and that of a four-footed creature for Red Dog. The science of numbers seems to have been known to him and his figures are carefully and accurately made. Two documents of colonial date in the exhibit were an original letter written by George Washington, August 12, 1754, dealing with events of the French and Indian War, and a commission signed by Patrick Henry in 1777. A Lincoln manuscript, one of the society's most priceless possessions, was also on display. Dated December 6, 1862, it recalls the culminating event of the Sioux massacre when thirty-eight Indians were executed at Mankato. The manuscript is the original order, in Lincoln's own hand, issued to Brigadier General Henry H. Sibley, for the execution of these Indians. It gives the name of each Indian in full and his number in the

record and is signed "Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States." Special exhibits of interesting documents are always on display on the tables in the manuscript room (209) and all persons interested are invited to come in and see them.

Six history hours for children have been held in the museum during the last three months, with talks by members of the society's staff as follows: "Pioneer Newspaper Editors," by Dorothy A. Heinemann, November 8; "A Pioneer Thanksgiving," by Bertha L. Heilbron, November 22; "A Hundred Years of Travel," by Mary B. Kimball, December 6; "Christmas in Many Lands," by Ilona B. Schmidt, December 20; "The Indian on the Warpath," by Willoughby M. Babcock Jr., January 10; and "Life in an Indian Village," also by Mr. Babcock, January 24. The attendance at these meetings sometimes runs as high as 185. Seventeen classes with a total of 387 students visited the museum during the same period.

Mr. Babcock, the curator of the museum, spent ten days in December visiting the museum of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee Public Museum for the purpose of studying their methods of handling museum problems.

#### GIFTS

The society has recently received from Mrs. Abigail Gardner Sharp of Arnolds Park, Lake Okoboji, Iowa, an autographed copy of the seventh revised edition of her book, *History of the Spirit Lake Massacre and Captivity of Miss Abbie Gardner*. The first edition of this book, a copy of which is in the possession of this society, was copyrighted in 1885 and the last edition, just received, in 1918. The autographed inscription reads as follows: "Presented to Minnesota Historical Society by the author in grateful remembrance of the action taken by Minnesota for my release from captivity among the Sioux Indians in 1857."

Mr. Howard S. Abbott of Minneapolis has presented to the society a collection of pamphlets, 443 in number, dealing with the legal and financial affairs of the Union Pacific and several other railroads of the country.

What it cost to live in Minnesota in 1856, as shown by the account book of Benjamin C. Baldwin, recently presented to the society by his daughter, Miss Clara Baldwin of St. Paul, is an interesting study in these days of soaring prices. Mr. Baldwin, a civil engineer, came to Minnesota in December, 1855, settling first at Lake City, where he engaged in land surveying and in preparing and recording legal papers.

To a son of one of the early fur-traders, now a man nearing ninety years of age, the Reverend Clement H. Beaulieu of Le Sueur, the society is indebted for a number of pictures and newspaper clippings and a few manuscripts concerning the old Crow Wing settlement and the Beaulieu family. His father, also Clement H., was born at Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin Territory, in 1810 and for many years was a prominent trader among the Chippewa both in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Unfortunately his papers and journals were practically all destroyed by fire in recent years. A mere fragment of these consisting of three promissory notes, two letters, and one sheet of accounts have been included. The letters were written in 1856 by Julius A. Fay, principal of a private school at Elizabethtown, New Jersey, to Dr. Charles W. Borup and give reports of the progress of Dr. Borup's son and his nephews, Charles and Clement Beaulieu. The sheet of accounts is rendered to C. H. Beaulieu for the expenses of his sons at this school. The three papers are a most interesting commentary on the efforts made by these early pioneers to give their children the advantages of an eastern education.

A list of Civil War volunteers credited to Little Falls, Morrison County, and certified by Oscar Malmros, adjutant general, August 11, 1864, is an interesting addition to our records of that war. The list was found among the papers of Miss Sadie Fuller, deceased, and was presented to the society by the Transcript Publishing Company of Little Falls, through the courtesy of E. M. La Fond, manager.

Two unique manuscripts relating to Chippewa Indians have recently been received through the courtesy of Dr. Folwell from Mr. Arthur G. Douglass of Minneapolis. One of the papers is a

receipt of nine Chippewa chiefs for flour and pork distributed at Long Lake, May 30, 1874, by Ebenezer Douglass, United States Indian agent; the other is a pictorial roll of Mille Lac Indians of "Man-zo-maunay's band at Sole's payment, October 29, 1873." The receipt also contains the mark of a chief "Monsomannay." This name recalls a spirited controversy which arose in August, 1914, when, in accordance with legislative action, a monument was erected at Fort Ridgely bearing the following inscription: "Erected by the State of Minnesota in Recognition of and to Commemorate the Loyal and Efficient Services Rendered to the State by Chief Mon-zoo-man-nee and the Chippewa Indians During the Sioux Outbreak and the Civil War." Although it was proved at that time there had been an Indian by that name among the Chippewa, just what he had done to deserve such special recognition by the state was not made clear. In the pictorial roll presented each family is represented by a grotesque figure and the members of the family are denoted by straight lines which resemble sticks. No names whatever appear on the roll, but the number of persons thus pictured totals one hundred and eight.

An interesting old panorama depicting the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 in all its horrors has been given to the society by Mr. Burt W. Eaton of Rochester. It was painted by John Stephens of Rochester in 1867, and consists of thirty-one scenes many of which were composed under the direction of persons who had gone through the massacre. The separate canvasses are fastened together so as to make a continuous series. This panorama was exhibited in various parts of the state for a time and then disappeared until Mr. Eaton discovered it in Winona in 1917.

A large pastel portrait of the late Archbishop Ireland has been presented to the society by Mrs. Julius R. Hilgedick of Saint Paul, through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. John Cannon. The portrait was made in the early nineties by the Sisters of Saint Agatha's Conservatory and represents the prelate in the prime of life.

An excellent oil painting of James M. Goodhue, editor of the *Minnesota Pioneer*, the first newspaper printed in Minnesota

Territory, has been presented to the society by his daughter, Mrs. Eve Goodhue Tarbox of Saint Paul, through the courtesy of Mrs. A. C. Heath and Miss Amelia Ames.

Two copies of a large photographic reproduction of pictures of 322 "Pioneer Residents of Mantorville," Minnesota, have been presented by Messrs. Samuel A. Lord, George B. Edgerton, and Cordenio A. Severance, of St. Paul but natives of Mantorville. The pictures were collected in connection with the home-coming celebration held there last summer.

From Mrs. Victoria A. Law of Minneapolis the society has received three interesting additions to its collection of pictures of early settlers. These are a photograph of Captain Jedediah Caleff who came to Nininger, Minnesota, from New Brunswick in the early fifties; a crayon portrait of Mrs. Susan Caleff who came to Nininger in 1856; and a pastel portrait of Mrs. Lizzie S. Bowler, the mother of the donor and widow of James M. Bowler.

Mr. Harold Dosé of St. Paul has presented framed pastel portraits of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Cook. Mr. Cook came to St. Paul in 1855 and was the founder of the St. Paul Omnibus Company.

A photograph of Winona in 1868 and a photographic reproduction of a painting of the river front at Winona in 1870 are gifts of Mr. Orrin F. Smith of Winona.

Major James C. Ferguson of St. Paul has presented several interesting relics which recall the life of the Indians on the plains and the hardships of the soldiers in the remote frontier military posts. A beaded saddle of Sioux workmanship, used at Fort Totten in 1875, beaded knife sheathes of Indian manufacture, and a pair of beaded buckskin trousers, which were made for his father, James B. Ferguson, at Fort Yates by an Indian woman, for use in the campaign of 1877, are among the specimens.

A silver Presidential medal bearing the bust of Franklin Pierce and the date 1853, which was presented to the famous Chippewa chief, Hole-in-the-Day, has been deposited with the society by

Mrs. Charles L. Spencer of Saint Paul. Mrs. Spencer has also presented a fine pair of beaded buckskin leggins, two small turtles made of deerskin and beads, and several other interesting Indian articles.

An interesting addition to the collection of specimens in the museum illustrating the religious history of the state, is the shofer or ceremonial horn which was used in the Jewish synagogue at St. Paul in 1856. The instrument is made from a ram's horn, and it was sounded on the Day of Atonement and the Jewish New Year's Day. It was presented by Mrs. Levi Herz of Paynesville, Minnesota. Mrs. Herz has also loaned for a special exhibit in the museum a collection of antique ceremonial articles connected with the Jewish Passover Eve festival.

Mrs. Albert R. Hall of St. Paul has presented an interesting collection of old china and pressed glass including several pieces of blue Staffordshire ware, also two powder horns which were carried by her grandfather, Joseph Parvin, before 1820.

On behalf of the Danish Red Cross unit of Saint Paul, Mrs. Victor Ingemann has presented to the society the silk Red Cross banner used by the organization. The unit was formed in April, 1918, and demobilized in December of the following year.

Brigadier General Arthur Johnson of Camp Custer, Michigan, has presented to the society the gas mask which was used by him while in France, and also a German gas mask in its tin container, which was picked up on the Argonne battlefield.